

STORM IN THE SOUTH

GREAT DESTRUCTION FOLLOWS IN ITS WAKE.

Quite a Number of People Are Known to Have Been Killed—Filibuster Commodore Goes Down Off the Coast of Florida.

Bad Storm in the South.

A special from Little Rock, Ark., says: Southern Arkansas, northern Texas and northwestern Louisiana were swept by a terrible wind and rain storm Saturday evening, causing the loss of a number of lives and the destruction of property. Telegraphic communication is prostrated to such an extent that details cannot be had tonight (Sunday), but enough is known to warrant the statement that not less than ten and probably a greater number of lives were lost. So far as heard from the greatest destruction occurred at Mooringsport, La., about thirty miles from Texarkana, where the entire town was blown away and seven or eight persons killed outright and as many more injured, some of them fatally. The wires went down in the storm and no details can be had from that place. The railroad has sent a train with a corps of surgeons and other relief to the town. Rumors of great destruction at Benton have reached here.

The Iron Mountain's south bound passenger train was caught in the storm at that station and had to be held there until the storm subsided. It is reported that twenty-five houses were blown down at Benton and a number of people injured. Benton is twenty-five miles south of Little Rock, but the wires to that point are also prostrated and no definite information concerning the cyclone there has been received here. What destruction has been caused south of Benton to Texarkana is not known. There are a number of good sized towns in that portion of the state, communication with all of them being interrupted. A private telegram from Cameron states that the storm struck that place with terrific fury, demolishing nearly the entire town. One man is known to have been killed. The storm was very severe at Little Rock, the rain falling in torrents for over an hour, and was accompanied by a magnificent electrical display, but the wind did no damage so far as known.

FOUNDERED OF FLORIDA.

The Filibuster Commodore Goes Down Near New Smyrna.

The steamer Commodore, which cleared from Jacksonville, Fla., for Cienfuegos, Cuba, on Thursday, with a cargo of arms and ammunition, is reported founderered off New Smyrna. Twenty-eight men were on board the steamer. One boat was washed ashore empty and another one landed with twelve men. The Commodore carried two other boats, but these have not been heard from. The steamer is reported to have sunk twenty miles out to sea.

A Monday morning dispatch says: Seventeen men accounted for out of the 28 on the Cuban filibuster Commodore, with a slight chance of seven more yet alive. Five men came ashore at Dayton, Capt. Murphy, Stephen Crane the novelist, the cook and two sailors. One of the latter, Wm. Higgins of Rhode Island, died soon after reaching land from the effects of the high surf. One of the survivors says the tug sank at 7 o'clock Saturday morning, twenty miles off New Smyrna, caused by a leak which was discovered at about 3 o'clock. It is said that a traitor in Spanish pay was the cause of the leak. He will be found and dealt with later. As the Commodore continued to sink, two boatsloads of Cubans, twelve men in all, were sent off. One boat containing six men was capsized and it is feared the men were lost. One of the lifeboats containing nine men was swamped and a hastily constructed raft made up of materials thrown to them and then they disappeared from sight. Capt. Murphy, Stephen Crane, the newspaper man, Higgins and sailors took to the ten-foot boat at the last moment. An attempt was made to save the men in the water around them, but the heavy sea and blinding wind made it impossible.

BIG NASHVILLE BLAZE.

Ten Business Houses Completely Wiped Out.

A fire which started in the dry goods house of Lebeck Bros. at Nashville, Tenn., caused losses roughly estimated at \$400,000. Ten buildings in the block bounded by the public square and College, Union and Market Streets were destroyed. The block is in the center of the dry goods and banking districts. The occupants of the buildings consumed are: Lebeck Bros., dry goods; Abernathy, Landsberger & Co., clothiers; Grimes, Daly & Robertson, dry goods; Burns & Co., leather merchants. These losses are total. Six other buildings and contents are badly damaged. The public square, the south end of the city market house, containing city offices, caught from sparks and was consumed.

Weekly Bank Statement.

The weekly bank statement shows a reserve decrease of \$1,022,000. The banks now hold \$33,287,000 in excess of the legal requirements.

Husband Is Responsible.

The appellate term of the supreme court of New York, has handed down a decision to the general effect that a husband, although living apart from his wife, is responsible for debts contracted by her for necessary articles in the absence of any agreement to the contrary.

To Mine Gold in Arizona.

A company to be capitalized at \$250,000 is forming at Dubuque, Iowa, to operate gold mines recently discovered in Arizona. President Rhonberg of the Dubuque Street Railway Company, heads the enterprise.

BACKED BY MILLIONS.

The Greatest Irrigation Scheme Ever Attempted.

Col. W. F. Cody, known the world over as "Buffalo Bill," is interested in one of the most extensive irrigation schemes ever attempted in the world. The scene of operation is in northwestern Wyoming, where, for the past three months, the promoters of the project have had 400 men at work on irrigation canals. Besides Col. Cody, others interested in the scheme are Nate Salisbury, his manager and partner; George Bleistein, publisher of the Buffalo Courier; Rumsey Bros. of Buffalo; Proprietor Gearans of the Iroquois Hotel of that city; E. V. Foote, a New York millionaire, and Edward Stokes, owner of the Hoffman House, Chicago.

These men secured a concession of 300,000 acres of land from the government on condition that they would irrigate it within the next five years. To do this \$2,000,000 capital was guaranteed, and they are having a canal 150 miles in length dug from the Shoshone River, about 100 miles back of the river in Wyoming, and on a lateral line with it. From the main canal a number of small trenches are dug, and water flowing into these subirrigates the soil. Col. Cody announces that he now has 25,000 acres ready for cultivation. A town has been laid off in the center of the reserve, and when it is populated it will be known as Cody.

FOR REVOLT IN CHINA.

Junta Will Establish Headquarters in Chicago.

According to Wong Chin Foo, one of the Chinese News, Chicago is to become headquarters for the Chinese revolutionary junta. This body plans the overthrow of the present Chinese dynasty by an armed invasion from a convenient island in the South Seas. Rooms for the junta have been already engaged in that city, and the Mongolians there now await the coming of Sung Yan Sen to set the machinery in operation which is to open China to western civilization. That gentleman is the Celestial revolutionist who recently was kidnapped in the streets of London, and whose release was effected by Lord Salisbury. He is now collecting money and organizing his followers in England. He will sail for America within two or three weeks, where he will confer with Wong Chin Foo of Chicago and other leaders of the Chinese reform party in this country.

ABANDONS ICE PALACE

St. Paul Gives Up the Project on Account of Warm Weather.

V. J. Votischild, secretary of the St. Paul Winter Carnival Association, has been authorized by the executive committee to announce that owing to the mild weather the association has been forced to abandon its plans for an ice palace this season. He stated that all necessary funds had been raised and elaborate plans had been made, but it would take thirty days to complete the palace, while today about the site on the island there is not enough sound ice to begin work, and the approaches to the island are covered with water. The weather generally has been too warm for a palace, and to hold a carnival in February would be apt to catch the same kind of weather then.

Bryan Will Talk at a Banquet.

Jackson's day, January 8, will be made memorable in Chicago by two banquets, to be given by the Bryan Legion and the National Democrats. Acceptances received by the managers of the last named banquet indicate that at least 1,000 Democrats, representing eight states, will be in attendance. The banquet of the Bryan Legion at the Tremont House will also be a big affair. The speechmaking will not begin until after midnight on the morning of the 8th, when Mr. Bryan will deliver his address, and then board a train for Omaha, where he has an engagement to speak in the evening.

Pope Leo's Elixir of Life.

According to a Rome dispatch the Voce Della Verita, the vatican organ, says the pope, in a recent speech, explained his longevity thus: A nun who had always enjoyed health visited him two months ago saying that she had offered herself as a sacrifice to God in order to prolong the pontiff's life. God had signified his approval, and the nun has died, while he himself still flourishes.

Drove the John Bull Engine.

James R. Francisco, one of the oldest railway engineers in the country, died at Fremont, Ohio, Wednesday. He operated the John Bull engine, which was brought from England in 1838 and was placed on the Camden and Amboy railroad to take the place of horses that had formerly hauled the cars. The famous engine was exhibited at the world's fair.

Never Reached Cuba.

Private advices have been received which confirm a previous report that forty-one filibusters from the steamer Three Friends, under Arano, having in their possession 360 rifles and sailing in two boats, were capsized off Jaruco, on the north coast of Havana province, Cuba, by reason of the rough seas. It is said that all of them were drowned.

McKinley Has Many Callers.

Many neighbors and friends called upon Mr. and Mrs. McKinley Friday morning and wished them a Happy New Year. During the forenoon Bellamy Storer and wife and the Marquis and Marchioness de Chambun arrived and were the guests of the president-elect and wife till afternoon.

Red Hat for Corrigan.

Newspapers in Rome announce the impending elevation of the Archbishop of New York (Corrigan) to the cardinalate.

Hanging in Delaware.

Edward Wright was hanged at Wilmington, Del., Friday, for killing Ida Crummel, colored, of whom he was jealous.

Naval Disaster.

PLYMOUTH, Eng.: An explosion of dynamite took place Thursday on board the British ship Delta in this harbor. The vessel sank and forty men on board her are believed to have perished.

Gladstone's Birthday.

LONDON: William Ewart Gladstone celebrated his 77th birthday Tuesday last, the third natal anniversary since his retirement from official public life in March, 1894.

THE WEEK IN TRADE

BUSINESS WORLD AS SEEN BY DUN & CO.

There Were More Failures in 1896 Than in Any Year Except 1893. The White House Reception—Newspaper Man Commits Suicide.

Dun & Co.'s Review.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review. Trade says: There have been more commercial failures in 1896 than in any previous year, except 1893, about 1,890, against 13,197 last year, with liabilities of about \$225,000,000, against \$173,196,660 last year, an increase in number of about 12 per cent. and in liabilities of 23 per cent.

Holiday dullness has been intensified by the failures and the efforts of great combinations to make new arrangements. With iron, coke, wool, cotton and hides all somewhat lower, there is almost universal confidence that business will soon become larger and safer than before for a long time.

Wheat has risen to the highest point since June, 1892, because western receipts in five weeks have been but 13,280,000 bushels, against 22,506,367 last year.

Atlantic exports, flour included, have been in five weeks 9,900,000 bushels, against 10,413,249 bushels last year. The exports from New York in December were 5 per cent. larger and imports 12 per cent. smaller than last year.

WHITE HOUSE RECEPTION.

President and Mrs. Cleveland Shake Hands with 7,000 People.

Seven thousand people shivered outside the White House Friday for periods varying from one to six hours. But patience had its reward in every case, for the president and Mrs. Cleveland shook hands with everyone of them.

The closing New Year's reception of the present administration was the most brilliant of Mr. Cleveland's whole eight years in office, and old Arthur Simmons, the president's famous colored messenger, whose service in the White House dates back thirty years, shook his head sagely as he viewed the far reaching crowd from an upper window and declared it "De greatest inception sense de wah."

The cold, gray sky that threatened rain which did not come, served merely as a foil to the brilliant pageant that moved for hours through the forest of tropical plants which filled the softly lighted parlors of the executive mansion.

DASHES HIS BRAINS OUT.

A Noted St. Louis Man Commits Suicide.

The body of Joseph B. McCullagh, chief editor of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, was found Thursday morning on the stone pavement beneath the window of his room in the residence of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Kate Manion, on Pine Street. The supposition is that he flung himself from the window. His skull was crushed and his body otherwise injured. The theory of suicide, however, is not accepted by all of McCullagh's friends. It is believed by many that he had one of his attacks of asthma during the night, and in the struggle for breath threw up the window to obtain air, and in his weakened condition tottered and fell out.

NATION'S OFFICIAL VOTE.

The Total Is 13,888,762 and McKinley's Plurality Is 630,745.

The official canvass of the vote of Maryland for president has been completed, this being the last state. The total vote in the different states is 13,888,762. McKinley, Republican, received 7,101,401; Bryan, Democratic, 6,470,656; Palmer, gold standard, 135,956; Levering, Prohibition, 130,860; Bentley, National, 14,892; Matchette, Socialist, 33,538. McKinley's plurality is 630,745, and his majority over all 816,399.

Murdered by White Men.

Eva Morrow, a 12-year-old girl, who was terribly injured at the time her father was murdered at Perkins, Oklahoma, two weeks ago, has recovered sufficiently to speak, and she said to the physicians that two white men committed the crime, having followed her father all day. This clears the negroes under arrest, who were so nearly lynched. It is believed the men were members of a gang of horse thieves against whom Morrow testified.

Inherits a Fortune.

Fred L. Wood, a convict in the San Quentin, Cal., prison, who recently inherited a fortune of \$30,000 from the estate of his father, a Chicago millionaire, is insane. He became violent in his cell Monday night and had to be forcibly removed to the hospital. It is thought his recent good fortune, together with the constant worry attendant upon his confinement in the penitentiary, is the cause of his insanity.

\$45,000 for a Shock.

Rev. Thomas Craven, Evanstonian, missionary and financier, has been condemned to pay to Mrs. Emma Braun of Chicago \$45,000 for injuries to her nervous system, which a jury decided were the sequence of a shock sustained from violent acts committed in her presence by the preacher.

Dr. Carrie Johnson Convicted.

Dr. Carrie Johnson, the well known female physician, formerly of Washington, D. C., was found guilty of murder in the second degree at Pueblo, Colo. She was charged with having caused the death of Mrs. Ella A. Kelley last September by criminal practice.

Yellow Fever Germ Found.

A dispatch from Rome that a young Italian doctor named Caccarelli, who has himself recovered from the disease in Rio Janeiro, has discovered the yellow fever germ and has given the details of his discovery under seal to the Rome Academy of Medicine.

Assaulted and Murdered.

The body of an unknown girl, aged 12, was found in a ravine near Eudora, Kan., New Year's day. She had been criminally assaulted and then strangled. There is no clue to her assailants.

SPECIAL CUBAN MESSAGE.

Home Rule to Be the Feature of the Document.

A report is in circulation in Washington that President Cleveland will send a special Cuban message to congress on the situation soon after the holidays. It is believed that if the president contemplates sending a special message to congress shortly, as reported, it will have especial reference to the question of securing home rule for Cuba. It is said an excellent authority that the state department has recently received a response from the Spanish authorities to the overtures made some time ago by this government looking to Cuban autonomy. Whether the response was favorable to the proposition or otherwise cannot be definitely stated, but there is good reason to believe that it was quite satisfactory to the president and Secretary Olney.

It is generally believed in diplomatic circles that there will be some important developments in regard to the Cuban situation immediately after the re-convening of congress. These developments, it is predicted, will be of such a character as to draw the attention of congress for a time at least from the further consideration of the Cameron resolution and the discussion of the issue made by Secretary Olney when he asserted that the power to recognize the independence of a foreign government belonged exclusively to the executive.

TO ANGLICIZE CHINA.

The Language to Be Taught in All the Principal Cities.

According to news received in Washington from unofficial sources, Li Hung Chang's visit to England and the United States already has borne fruit in a decision of the Chinese government gradually to Anglicize the Chinese people, at least as far as their language is concerned. The Peking government recently issued instructions to the various viceroys and governors of provinces of the empire to establish schools for the teaching of the English language and the western sciences in all the principal cities of the country. According to the wording of one clause in the general instructions, the reason for this is that China, in order to keep herself on terms of equality and in touch with the great powers of Europe, "must educate the masses and encourage the inventive genius and foreign learning among her people, together with that love of country and home and that devoted patriotism so conspicuously engrained in all the hearts of those who have studied such languages and sciences."

CAN SAIL FOR CUBA.

United States to Grant Clearance Papers to a Filibuster.

For the first time since the present struggle in Cuba began this government has instructed a customs official at Jacksonville, Fla., to allow the Dauntless to clear for Cuba loaded with munitions of war presumably for the insurgent army. The vessel is a well known alleged filibuster.

This concession, however, does not free the vessel from the penalties for violation of the law. The statutes prescribe that the owners, shippers and consignors of a cargo bound for a foreign port shall, in order to secure a clearance, state under oath the port at which the cargo is to be landed, and severe penalties are prescribed for violation of this requirement, including confiscation of the vessel.

Colorado-Utah War Off.

A war between the Colorado cattle men and the Utah sheep men in Colorado has been averted. It seems the sheep men in Utah were under the impression that the quarantine proclamation issued by Gov. McIntyre would become void on his retirement from office, January 12. Attorney General Carr having given an opinion that the proclamation remains in force until rescinded by executive order, the sheep men have decided not to invade the state with their herds.

Mystery to the Doctors.

Gertrude, the 6-year-old daughter of Albert Owen of Niles, Mich., is dead. The child at the time of her death weighed but fourteen pounds. She had never seen daylight, had never spoken a word, never walked a step and never tasted anything but milk. Her malady was a mystery to the doctors.

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$3.50 to \$5.50; hogs, shipping grades, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, fair to choice, \$2.00 to \$4.00; wheat, No. 2 red, 78c to 79c; corn, No. 2, 22c to 24c; oats, No. 2, 16c to 17c; rye, No. 2, 37c to 38c; butter, choice creamery, 20c to 22c; eggs, fresh, 20c to 21c; potatoes, per bushel, 20c to 30c; broom corn, common green to fine brush, 2c to 5 1/2c per pound.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$5.25; hogs, choice light, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, good to choice, \$2.00 to \$3.50; wheat, No. 2, 88c to 90c; corn, No. 2 white, 20c to 22c; oats, No. 2 white, 21c to 22c.

St. Louis—Cattle, \$3.00 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.50; wheat, No. 2, 91c to 94c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 20c to 21c; oats, No. 2 white, 17c to 19c; rye, No. 2, 34c to 36c.

Cincinnati—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.00; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, \$2.50 to \$3.75; wheat, No. 2, 94c to 96c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 20c to 22c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 19c to 21c; rye, No. 2, 35c to 37c.

Detroit—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.00; sheep, \$2.00 to \$3.75; wheat, No. 2 red, 92c to 94c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 20c to 22c; oats, No. 2 white, 20c to 21c; rye, 37c to 38c.

Toledo—Wheat, No. 2 red, 95c to 97c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 21c to 23c; oats, No. 2 white, 18c to 19c; rye, No. 2, 37c to 39c; clover seed, \$5.40 to \$5.50.

Milwaukee—Wheat, No. 2 spring, 78c to 80c; corn, No. 3, 20c to 21c; oats, No. 2 white, 18c to 20c; rye, No. 2, 30c to 35c; rye, No. 1, 39c to 40c; pork, mess, \$6.50 to \$7.00.

Buffalo—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.00; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, \$2.00 to \$4.00; wheat, No. 2 red, 94c to 96c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 24c to 25c; oats, No. 2 white, 22c to 24c.

New York—Cattle, \$3.00 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.00; sheep, \$2.00 to \$4.25; wheat, No. 2 red, 90c to 92c; corn, No. 2, 23c to 25c; oats, No. 2 white, 22c to 23c; butter, creamery, 15c to 23c; eggs, Western, 16c to 23c.

STATE OF NEBRASKA

NEWS OF THE WEEK IN A CONDENSED FORM.

Young Girl Dies at the Columbus Hospital as the Result, it is Said, of Inhuman Treatment by Her Foster Parents.

Charge of Cruelty to a Child.

Frances Will, a 10-year-old orphan girl, has lived with her foster parents near Ocmee, ten miles west of Columbus. The child, though fair of face and form, was weak and delicate and her health was never robust. Because she could not do the work of others older and stronger than herself, she was beaten and otherwise ill-treated. Sickness ensued, when she was taken to Columbus and placed in St. Mary's hospital, her little black with bruises and sore with wounds, and on Christmas morning, when other children were recounting what good Santa Claus had placed in their stockings, she, unattended and alone, save for a kind-hearted hospital nurse, was dying. Later in the day she died.

About one month before she died the attention of County Attorney Gondring was called to the matter. He interviewed the girl, but said that he thought that no conviction could be made, and also thought that her case had been exaggerated. Some two weeks before she died the physician in attendance, as he says for his own protection, took a stenographer with him and got a statement from the child after it was apparent that she could not live. He asked her if she knew what death was, and if she knew that she was very sick. She replied that she had seen her mother die, and that she knew that she herself could not live. The physician then admonished her to tell the whole truth and to use the physician's own words, "the little victim then told a story of blood-curdling cruelty and abuse almost beyond belief and enough to make a man's hair stand on end."

State Treasurer's Report.

In the introduction to his biennial report to the governor State Treasurer Bartley sets forth the following statement of receipts and disbursements for the period covered from the close of business November 30, 1894, to December 1, 1896. From the detailed exhibits are found:

Balance per last report, \$1,121,387.34  
Received November 30, 1894 to December 1, 1896 3,667,594.95  
Total 4,788,982.29  
Disbursed November 30, 1894, to December 1, 1896 3,059,554.99

Balance November 30, 1896 \$1,729,427.30  
From this amount are to be deducted the sums in suspended state depositories, as follows:

Capital National Bank \$236,361.83  
Buffalo County National Bank 4,499.00  
Globe Loan and Trust Company Savings Bank 12,892.54  
Bank of Wymore 14,965.57  
First National Bank of Beatrice 2,803.14

Total \$271,522.08  
Balance 1,457,905.22

York Banks Are Sold.

An investigation was made of a rumor that the York banks held state money, which, if called for, it would seriously embarrass them to pay. It was learned that none of the banking institutions there held money belonging to the state, although some had formerly held a deposit. One bank of that city which had been designated as a state depository, immediately upon the election of Meserve, sent in its deposit of money belonging to the state. The conservative policy of local bankers has materially strengthened the institutions under their guidance, despite the past few years of financial difficulties.

Some Requisitions Granted.

On request of Gov. Morrill of Kansas a requisition was granted from the governor's office at Lincoln for Chubb Lamb, who is wanted at Eureka City, Kan., on a charge of grand larceny, Lamb having stolen a horse and saddle October 23 and fled the state. He is now under arrest at Wilber, Saline County, this state. A requisition on the governor of Iowa was also secured by Thomas Brennan of Omaha for Alex. Sheely, who is wanted in Omaha on the charge of having burglarized the barber shop of Jesse Reddek on the night of December 20. Sheely is now under arrest at Council Bluffs.

Fatal Accident at Charivari.

James Evans, the boy who was shot at a charivari party at Ogalalla, died of his injuries. Mr. Evans, the boy's father, is commander of the Grand Army of the Republic post. Mrs. Evans is prostrated and it is feared she may lose her mind. Frank Youcum, the young man who did the shooting, is in jail on the charge of manslaughter. He is about 23 years old and is said to have been in the habit of carrying a gun. Public sentiment is worked up against the practice of carrying firearms in the community and it may go hard with Youcum.

Hicks' Fall Proves Costly.

A fine horse owned by John Hicks of Decatur was killed in a runaway and the buggy badly smashed. Hicks and his chum had just crossed the pouton and both were drunk. They refused to pay toll. It made the gatekeeper mad, and he knocked Hicks out of the buggy. The commotion frightened the horses, and they ran away, the other fellow falling out of the wagon. The team turned a corner in the business part of the town and bumped against a tree, it striking the near horse full in the forehead.

Marketing Much Corn.

Corn is being marketed at a lively rate at Central City. T. B. Hord received 75,000 bushels last week. The price has been 12 cents until the present week, when the buyers dropped to 11 cents. Eight thousand cattle, 7,000 hogs and 30,000 sheep are being fed there.

Result of Financial Troubles.

Joseph Kraska, a young Bohemian farmer residing six miles south of Weston, attempted to commit suicide by shooting himself in the abdomen with a shotgun. It is said to be the result of financial reverses.

Holiday Trade Causes Trouble.

H. B. Rollins, proprietor of the Hastig Fair, has confessed judgment to claims aggregating nearly \$17,000. Fred P. Olmstead, representing judgment creditors to the amount of about \$26,000, has taken possession of the stock of goods, which amounts to nearly \$35,000.

Death of a Nance County Pioneer.

Dr. E. H. Smith, one of the pioneers of Nance County, died at Immanuel Hospital, Omaha, from Bright's disease, from which he had been suffering for more than a year. The body of the deceased was taken to Fullerton for burial.

Piper Signs the Commission.

Secretary of State Piper has signed the commissions of Messrs. Neville and Kirkpatrick, elected to the supreme bench in November last, contingent on the adoption of the first amendment to the constitution submitted to the people, which increases the number of supreme judges, and which the populists contend, was carried by the necessary constitutional majority. Last week the secretary of state refused to sign his name to these two certificates, after having signed the others for the state officers and regents-elect.

As the commissions are made contingent upon the amendment being declared carried, the governor said that he should issue them at once to Kirkpatrick and Neville. The matter will next come before the legislature for final action, unless the Republicans institute quo warranto proceedings in the supreme court to test the legality of the alleged election.

Agricultural Society in Session.

The Clay County Agricultural Society held its annual meeting in Clay Center. A good attendance was present. The annual reports of the various officers were read, which showed the society to have done remarkably well the past few years. An old indebtedness for extensive improvements has been satisfied and all the operating expenses of holding the fair have been paid. O. C. Williams was elected as delegate to represent the society at the annual meeting of the state board of agriculture. The fair for 1897 will be held the week following the state fair of the same year.

Bank Will Voluntarily Liquidate.

A dispatch from Crete says: The Crete National Bank will publish notice of going into voluntary liquidation. The bank has four times the amount of its deposits in cash on hand and on deposit with reserve agents. The deposits amount to \$12,000 and cash and exchange to \$75,000. The bank will liquidate by arrangement through the First National Bank of this city. The reason for winding up business as given by the bank officers is that there is no profit in banking in this section of the state.

Find Gotlof Butner's Body.

Gotlof Butner, an old man, 76 years of age, formerly residing at 1035 South Sixth Street, Lincoln, was found dead in a creek near the Lincoln Hospital for the Insane. He had evidently stepped from the bank, and when discovered was nearly buried in quicksand. Butner was feeble-minded. On last Christmas eve he wandered away from home and was not seen again until his body was found.

Narrow Escape of a Whole Family.

The family of Mrs.